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EXCISE

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ACTION EA-12

INFO CCT-01 AIS-00 SSC-00 CIAE-02 ICIE-02 PM-07 E-21

INR-17 L-23 NSAT-20 PA-01 SP-22 SS-15 NSCE-02

ICAE-02 INRE-02 HA-05 /057 N

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O 171222Z SEP 82

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2022

INFO AMEMBASSY PEIJING

AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 16518

I.C. 12068: GDS 20/17/86 (IMMERMAN, ROBERT) CR-P

TAGS: SHUM, PEPR, KS, JA

SUBJECT: (U) GOJ REACTION TO KIM DAE JUNG SENTENCE

1. (C) ENTIRE TEXT.

2. VICE FOREIGN MINISTER TAKASHIMA
HAI CALLED IN ROK AMBASSADOR CHOI (WHO HAS NOT YET
PRESENTED CREDENTIALS) AT 4:30 P.M. TO CONVEY GOJ RE-
ACTION TO KIM DAE JUNG'S DEATH SENTENCE. TAKASHIMA
SUBSEQUENTLY BRIEFED JAPANESE PRESS ON MEETING.

3. TAKASHIMA TOLD CHOI THAT THE SENTENCE PRONOUNCED
TODAY DEMONSTRATES THE EXTREMELY SEVERE CIRCUMSTANCES
IN WHICH KIM DAE JUNG FINDS HIMSELF. THE GOJ IS CON-
CERNED ABOUT THIS DEVELOPMENT. BECAUSE OF ITS CONCERN
WITH MR. KIM'S PERSONAL TREATMENT, THE GOJ FINDS THIS
LATEST DEVELOPMENT TO BE SERIOUS AND WILL WATCH RELATED
MOVES CLOSELY FROM NOW ON.

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4. TAKASHIMA ALSO TOLD CHOI THAT THE GOJ EARNESTLY
DESIRED THE MAINTENANCE OF SMOOTHLY WORKING RELATIONS
BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. HE SAID, HOWEVER, THE
GOVERNMENT WILL FIND ITSELF CONSTRAINED BY A SEVERE
PUBLIC REACTION TO THE LATEST TRIAL DEVELOPMENTS. HE
EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER KIM'S TREATMENT.

5. HE THUS
HOPED THAT THIS MATTER COULD BE APPROACHED CALMLY,
THEREBY HELPING THOSE PEOPLE IN KOREA WHO WERE TRYING
TO WORK FOR GOOD ROK-JAPAN RELATIONS.

6. CHOI ALSO TOLD TAKASHIMA THAT ROK AUTHORITIES HAD
DROPPED CHARGE REGARDING KIM DAE JUNG'S ACTIVITIES IN
JAPAN IN VIEW OF THE POLITICAL UNRESTING BETWEEN

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MRE

REVIEWED BY *H. Sample* DATE *8/18/82*
PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED

STEEFIDGE CAROLYN E
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JAPAN AND THE ROY. KIN'S DEATH SENTENCE WAS THUS FOR
ACTIVITIES COMMITTED IN THE ROY. APT NOT FOR ACTIVITIES
IN JAPAN.

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